

REMARKS

This application has been reviewed in light of the Office Action of August 26, 2003. Claims 1-20 are pending. Claims 16-20 are withdrawn, claims 19, 11, and 13-15 are rejected, and claims 10 and 12 are objected to. In response, the application is amended responsive to the indication of allowable subject matter in claims 10 and 12, with the intent of placing the application in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of this application, as amended, is requested.

Claim 1 is amended to incorporate the limitations of claim 10, and claim 10 is canceled. Claims 1-9 and 11-15 are therefore believed to be allowable.

Claims 16-20 are canceled, without prejudice.

New claims 21-26 are added. Claim 21 is a rewriting of objected-to claim 12 in independent form. Claims 22-26 are the same as as-filed claims 2, 3, 6, 7, and 9, respectively. Claims 21-26 are therefore believed to be allowable.

Claims 1, 7, 8, 14, and 15 are rejected under 35 USC § 102 as anticipated by Breslin. Applicant traverses this ground of rejection.

Claims 1, 11, 13, 14, and 15 are rejected under 35 USC § 102 as anticipated by Claar. Applicant traverses this ground of rejection.

Claims 1-6, 8, and 13-14 are rejected under 35 USC § 103 as unpatentable over Gupta in view of Ten Eyck. Applicant traverses this ground of rejection.

Applicant maintains its traverse of these rejections, but has amended the application responsive to the indication of allowable subject matter to gain allowance of claims of interest. This action is not to be interpreted as acquiescence in the rejections.

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Applicant has also canceled the restricted claims 16-20 to gain allowance of the claims of interest. This action is not to be interpreted as acquiescence in the restriction.

Applicant submits that the application is in condition for allowance, and requests such allowance. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge indicated fees and credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 50-1059.

Respectfully submitted,
MCNEES WALLACE & NURICK LLC

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